



District 11

Serving Eaton and Ingham Counties

Delhi - East Lansing - Eaton Rapids

Lansing - Mason - Meridian

Delta Township - Twin Diamonds

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Slow Pitch Softball League By-Laws

Revised: 2014

1. Starting The Game - Game time is forfeit time - A team must have a minimum of nine players to start. A team must maintain a minimum of nine players throughout the game. Failure to complete the game with nine players is forfeiture of the game. As by rule, a team must have a minimum of 11 players (12 for coed) present to start the game with an "extra player". This rule may only be utilized if you start the game with 11 or 12 players. A team cannot add an 11th or 12th batting position to their lineup once the game has begun

Exception: East Lansing, Delhi, Mason, Eaton Rapids and Twin Diamonds - A team may start and finish with eight players.

Exception: Delta Township and Meridian Township - A team may start and finish with six players.

2. Time Limit - All games will have a time limit of one hour and 10 minutes. No new inning shall start one hour and 10 minutes after the game's pregame conference between the managers and umpires or the first warm-up pitch is thrown, whichever comes first. Games called due to time limit shall constitute a complete game regardless of the number of innings played.

Exception: Mason and East Lansing - One hour time limit.

Exception: Twin Diamonds - One hour and five minute time limit.

3. If a player is removed from the batting order for any reason, and the batting position is unable to be filled by a legal substitute, the vacant position shall be an automatic "out" each time that batting position is scheduled to bat. If a player is removed from a base or the plate for any reason (injury, ejection, etc.), and is unable to be replaced by a legal substitute, an immediate "out" will be declared in all cases.

4. Courtesy Runner (CR) - Any eligible player on the official line-up including available substitutes may be used as a courtesy runner. One courtesy runner only may be used per inning. Coed - once per inning for a female (female CR) and once per inning for a male (male CR).

Exception: East Lansing & Twin Diamonds - CR must be the previous out

5. Run Ahead Rule - We will use the A.S.A. Rule which now reads 20 runs after three innings, 15 runs after four innings, 10 runs after five innings.

6. Tie Game - If the game is tied after seven innings or less and the time limit has expired, one extra inning will be allowed. If the game has progressed at least eight innings during the one hour and 10 minute time limit, no new inning will be allowed to start after the time limit has expired.

Exception: Mason will use the International Tie Breaker

Exception: E. Lansing & Delta - Games can end in a tie. Games called due to time limit shall constitute a complete game.

7. Ejections - When ejections for unsportsmanlike conduct occur the player ejected must leave the area and be out of sight and out of sound of the playing field. Once a player has been ejected that player is still the responsibility of the manager or his/her designee.

8. Protests - Must be filed in writing with the League Office by 5 p.m. the next business day and must be accompanied by a \$20 protest fee. It is the protesting team's responsibility to site the rule(s) violated. If the protest is upheld, the fee will be refunded. All protests must be in accordance with the current A.S.A. Rule Book. The League Director shall act upon all protests. If a player's eligibility is protested at the site, the player in question will be required to show ID. If no ID is available the player must give the following information on the back of the score sheet or a separate piece of paper: name, address, home phone, birth date, and signature. Failure to produce ID or give the above information will result in immediate forfeit of the game.

9. Inclement Weather - If the decision to play is left up to the umpire(s) at the field, the teams should report to the field. If 1 game is canceled on a diamond, then all subsequent games on that diamond are canceled for the night. If it rains during the game, the umpire(s) shall suspend play for a minimum of 15 minutes before deciding if the field is playable. 4 1/2 - 5 innings shall constitute a complete game. If a game is suspended due to thunder or lightning, there must be a period of 15 minutes expired with no thunder or lightning present before play is resumed. Regular league games that are stopped (due to weather, darkness, etc.) before enough innings have been completed for the game to be considered regulation or regulation tie games (that are not considered complete as per these softball bylaws) shall be rescheduled and played from the beginning.

10. All equipment must comply with ASA rules.

11. Steel Cleats Are Not Allowed

Exception: Delta Township - Men's and Women's

Exception: East Lansing, Twin Diamonds, Mason & Eaton Rapids - Men's

12. There shall be no smoking on the playing field.

13. Home Run Rule Limit - Home runs DO NOT have to be run out.

Delta and Lansing - 6 (excess are outs)

Delhi, East Lansing and Meridian - 3 (excess are outs)

Mason - 1 up rule for lower men's and coed - 3 up rule for upper men's and coed.

Twin Diamonds - 3 on Sunday & Tuesday, 2 on Monday & Thursday and 5 on Wednesday (excess are outs)

Eaton Rapids - 3 up rule

14. Ball And Strike Count - Exception: One and one count - Batter gets one grace foul ball with two strikes

15. Pitching Rule - Exception - All District 11 communities - Pitchers may pitch from up to 6' behind (within the width of) the pitching rubber. All other pitching requirements and rules will still apply.

16. Penalties For the Use Of An Improper Bat

A. Illegal Bats (baseball bat, little league bat, golf club, etc.) Penalized per ASA Rule Book - batter is out.

B. Non Approved Bats (Any bat that does not meet ASA specifications or does not have an ASA approved stamp or is on the current Non-Approved bat list) Batter is out and ejected per ASA Rule Book

C. Altered Bats (shaving, painting, rolling, etc.) Batter is out and ejected for every offense - First Offense: two game suspension, Second Offense: player is suspended for the remainder of the season, Third Offense: player is suspended 1 calendar year from the date of the offense.

Exception: Lansing - First offense: 4 game suspension, Second offense: minimum 4 game suspension (If needed, will carry over to the following season played.)

Exception: Meridian - Second offense: Player is suspended for the rest of the season or a minimum of 6 games (If needed, will carry over to the following season played.)

Exception: Mason - Refer to Mason's "Rules of Play"

17. Pitching Arc - All leagues shall abide by the ASA pitching arc rule (6.3.d), which states "the ball must reach a height of at least 6 feet from the ground, while not exceeding a maximum height of 10 feet from the ground.

Exception: East Lansing - 12 foot maximum height